

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 /079 W  
-----061681 101714Z /43

O R 101415Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7258

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 940

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SF, WA, PORG

SUBJ: NAMIBIA: CAPE TOWN FIVE MEETING WITH SAG

REF: USUN 1848

THE FOLLOWING IS THE CAPE TOWN FIVE'S AGREED REPORT AFTER  
MEETING WITH FOURIE TODAY, MAY 10: BEGIN TEXT:

1. THE CAPE TOWN FIVE SAW FOURIE AT 1500 LOCAL TIME TODAY  
AND DELIVERED THE TALKING POINTS (REFTEL) AS INSTRUCTED.

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THE GROUP HAD EARLIER AGREED TO FOLLOWING CHANGE IN THE LAST  
TWO SENTENCES OF PARA 4 OF THE TEXT OF REFTEL:

"WE ARE URGENTLY CONSIDERING WHAT ACTION WE SHOULD NOW  
TAKE. BUT IN THE MEANTIME, WE SHOULD WARN YOU THAT IT IS  
UNREALISTIC FOR YOU NOW TO EXPECT US TO TAKE THIS MATTER  
TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN THE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF LAST  
WEEKEND'S EVENTS. INDEED, IN OUR VIEW A SECURITY COUNCIL

DEBATE AT THIS TIME WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO THE WHOLE INITIATIVE."

2. FOURIE SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE TWO PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON WHAT WE HAD SAID. FIRST, ON THE QUESTION OF "JUSTIFICATION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S ACTION", THIS WAS AN EXPRESSION OF VIEW OF THE FIVE WHICH WAS NOT SHARED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT SINCE LEADERS OF THE COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA WERE BEING KILLED AND WOMEN AND CHILDREN BEING ABDUCTED. HE WAS SURPRISED AT HOW LITTLE SYMPATHY WAS EVOKED FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S DIFFICULTIES COMPARED WITH OUR CONCERN AT ANY ACTION AGAINST SWAPO. SECONDLY, OUR DEMAND (PARA 5 OF THE TALKING POINTS) THAT SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD UNDERTAKE NO ACTION INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL, HE MUST REMIND US THAT MR. MCHENRY HIMSELF HAD BEEN REPORTED AS SAYING IN WINDHOEK, IN RELATION TO SWAPO RAIDS, THAT "UNTIL A CEASEFIRE TAKES PLACE YOU MUST EXPECT THIS KIND OF THING TO HAPPEN". FOURIE SAID, AS LONG AS SWAPO PLAYED A ROUGH GAME, THEY MUST EXPECT RETALIATION IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER.

3. FOURIE THEN SAID THAT HIS MINISTER HAD ASKED HIM TO SAY THAT HE ALSO HAD HIS PROBLEMS. THERE WERE MANY IN SOUTH AFRICA WHO WERE URGING THAT SOMETHING MUST BE DONE, AND THE SAG WERE NOW STUDYING THE POSSIBILITIES. IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT IF WE WERE NOW ONCE AGAIN TO ENTER A PERIOD OF CONFIDENTIAL

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INACTIVITY. HE MUST REMIND US THAT OUR PROPOSAL HAS BEEN

ACCEPTED WITH SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AS FINAL AND DEFINITIVE: THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO STICK TO THIS EVEN IF SWAPO PROVED HARD TO GET.

4. AFTER A REVIEW OF THE POINTS MADE, FOURIE ASKED HOW SOON WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO GET ACTION GOING IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. WE SAID THAT THIS WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO JUDGE, SINCE WE WERE ONLY NOW BEGINNING TO REASSESS THE STATE OF MIND OF SOME OF THE KEY COUNTRIES CONCERNED, ESPECIALLY THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE AFRICAN STATES. BUT WE WOULD PRESS AHEAD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE IN TURN ASKED FOURIE WHAT TIME FRAME DID THEY HAVE IN MIND. FOURIE SAID THAT THIS WAS ONLY NOW BEGINNING TO BE DISCUSSED, BUT THE MINISTER HAD SAID ONLY YESTERDAY THAT HE HOPED ACTION COULD BE TAKEN WITHIN DAYS. WE REACTED STRONGLY TO THIS AND SAID THAT PREMATURE POLITICAL ACTION COULD WRECK THE WHOLE EXERCISE JUST AS EFFECTIVELY AS MILITARY ACTION. THE DELAY WHICH HAD ALREADY OCCURRED WAS THE RESULT OF SOUTH AFRICAN ACTION WHICH GAVE SWAPO THE EXCUSE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE

TALKS ALREADY ARRANGED IN NEW YORK FOR MONDAY. WE ADDED THAT IT WAS NOT MERELY A QUESTION OF REFRAINING FROM TAKING MILITARY OR OTHER DETRIMENTAL ACTION, WE WERE ALSO ASKING THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVT TO TAKE POSITIVE STEPS TO HELP CREATE A CLIMATE OF TRUST. THIS COULD HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE TIME REQUIRED TO ET THE PROPOSALS BACK ON THE RAILS. FOURIE APPEARED TO TAKE OUR POINTS AND SAID HE WOULD REPORT OUR DEMARCHE TO BOTHA ALR THE PRIME MINISTER. END TEXT.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT: THE CHANGE IN THE TEXT OF THE TALKING POINTS AS NOTED IN PARA 1 ABOVE OF THE FIVE'S REPORT WAS ADOPTED AFTER A DISCUSSION IN A MEETING OF THE FIVE THIS MORNING. THE FRENCH, BRITISH AND GERMANS ALL EXPRESSED DISCOMFORT WITH THE TALKING POINTS AND A NUMBER CONFIDENTIAL

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OF MODIFICATIONS WERE SUGGESTED. IT WAS ALSO URGED THAT THIS TIME WE FOLLOW THE PRACTICE OF DRAWING ON THE TALKING POINTS RATHER THAN READING THEM VERBATIM. IN THE END WE COMPROMISED ON THE CHANGES AS NOTED ABOVE AND THE TEXT WAS READ VERBATIM TO FOURIE. THE FIRST 2 SENTENCES QUOTED UNDER PARA 1 OF OUR REPORT ABOVE WERE URGED BY THE BRITISH AMB ON FCO INSTRUCTIONS. FCO ALSO WANTS THE SUCCEEDING

SENTENCE DELETED FROM THE TALKING POINTS BUT WE SETTLED FOR OMISSION OF THE WORD "FUTILE" AND RETAINING THE REMAINDER OF THE SENTENCE. IN ORDER TO AVOID FURTHER DELAY, WE AGREED TO THESE CHANGES.

NELSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DEMARCHE, MEETINGS  
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**Draft Date:** 10 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014